



EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL 501 634 374 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Mason et al.

Application No.: 09/536,552

Group Art Unit: 1643

Filed: March 28, 2000

Examiner: To be assigned

For: IDENTIFICATION OF A NOVEL
RETROVIRUS ASSOCIATED
WITH PRIMARY SCLEROSING
CHOLANGITIS AND
AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS

Attorney Docket No.: 9926-003-999

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56 AND §1.97**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent and Trademark Office of all references coming to the attention of Applicants or Applicants' attorneys which are or may be related to patentability of the claimed invention, Attorneys for Applicants hereby direct the Examiner's attention to references AA-AM which are listed on the accompanying revised PTO Form 1449. Legible copies of these references are submitted herewith.

Identification of the above-listed references is not to be construed as an admission of Applicants or Attorneys for Applicants that such references are available as "prior art" against the subject application. Consequently, Applicants respectfully decline to use form PTO-1449, since that form identifies all of the references cited therein as "Prior Art." As an

alternative, Applicants submit herewith a "revised form PTO 1449" entitled "List of References Cited".

Applicants request that the Examiner review all the references identified on the attached revised PTO Form 1449, and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits; therefore, Applicants estimate that no fee is required. If a fee is required, please charge the required fee to Pennie & Edmonds Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Date October 11, 2000

by: *Jacqueline Benn*
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Enclosure